

St. Stephens Church
St. Stephens
Berkeley County
South Carolina

SC-74
HABS No. SC-74

HABS
S.C.
8-SAST
1.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of South Carolina

Historic American Buildings Survey

Prepared at Washington Office
for Southeast Unit

11/1/40

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St. Stephen's Church
St. Stephen Vicinity
Berkeley County
South Carolina

Historical Data:

In 1754 the upper part of St. James Parish, known as English Santee was cut off into St. Stephen's Parish. The Vestry agreed in 1759 to make sufficient bricks for the erection of a church to replace its decayed wooden chapel. Twice the bricks were rejected for poor quality until a third attempt produced the fine brick of the present building.

William Axson, a member of the Wambaw Lodge of Freemasons, showed his personal interest in his work by neatly inscribing on a couple of ground bricks his name, his Master Mason's insignia & representations of the appointments of a Blue Lodge.

Apparently a spirit of dissent prevailed throughout the building work for a member of the Vestry, Philip Porcher of Oldfield, in criticizing the "late proceedings" and other things, withdrew from the commission.

Bibliography: S. G. Stoney: Plantations of the Carolina Low Country.

L. H. H. H.

Addendum to:

St. Stephen's Church (Episcopal)
St. Stephen's
Berkeley County
South Carolina

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.